

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AF-10
ARA-10 NEA-10 OIC-02 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-06 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 /156 W
-----057853 271520Z /46

P 271456Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5214
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USMTN

USEEC

PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY FOR INFO
STR PASS CODEL

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, GATT
SUBJECT: TRIPARTITE MEETING WITH DG LONG JANUARY 23

REF: GENEVA 00609 NOTAL

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR STRAUSS, EC VP HAFERKAMP
AND MINISTER USHIBA MET WITH DG LONG FOR AN HOUR PRIOR TO
THE INFORMAL MTN MEETING ON THE TABLING OF OFFERS. HAVING
ALREADY AGREED ON A TIMETABLE AMONG THEMSELVES IN BILATERAL
SESSIONS PRECEDING THE MEETING WITH DG LONG, THE THREE
CONFIRMED PLEDGES TO SEEK COMPLETION OF THE TOKYO ROUND BY
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MID-JULY. DG LONG EXPRESSED HIS GRATIFICATION AT THIS
EVIDENCE OF POLITICAL WILL, AND ASSURED THE GROUP OF THE
FULL COOPERATION OF THE GATT SECRETARIAT TOWARD THIS END
BUT CAUTIONED THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL BE
PRESSING TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN PURSUIT OF THEIR
SPECIAL INTERESTS IN THE UPCOMING WORK. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR STRAUSS BEGAN TRIPARTITE MEETING WITH DG LONG WITH AN AFFIRMATION OF THE FRIENDSHIP AND CONFIDENCE THAT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BETWEEN HAFERKAMP, USHIBA AND HIMSELF WHICH GAVE BASIS FOR HIS CONVICTION THAT WE COULD COMPLETE MTN BY JULY. STRAUSS SAID THE NEXT FEW MONTHS ARE NOT A PERIOD FOR POSTURING AND GAME PLAYING BUT THE TIME TO DEAL SQUARELY WITH SUBSTANCE; HE ALSO SAID THE BIG THREE HAD TO BE STAFFED PROPERLY IN GENEVA AND CAPITALS TO BRING IT OFF. HAFERKAMP RESPONDED WITH AN EQUALLY POSITIVE STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE THAT WE COULD SUCCEED, ALSO POINTED TO IMPORTANCE OF PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND TRUST AMONG THE THREE PRINCIPALS AND SAID THIS FACTOR AUGURED WELL FOR NOT ONLY COMPLETING THE TOKYO ROUND PROMPTLY BUT BUILDING ON IT TO SOLVE OTHER PROBLEMS. HE CONFIRMED THAT WE SHOULD MAKE THE POLITICAL DECISION ON THE MTN PACKAGE DURING JULY. MINISTER USHIBA CALLED IT AN HISTORIC DAY, CITED STRONG POLITICAL COMMITMENT OF PM FUKUDA TO SUPPORT THE MTN, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FALLS ON JAPAN TO HELP SPUR THE WORLD ECONOMY, AND CONFIRMED JAPAN IS READY TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH ANY TIMETABLE AGREEABLE TO U.S. AND EC INCLUDING THAT OF MID-JULY.

3. DG LONG SAID HE WAS DELIGHTED TO HEAR THIS GOOD NEWS ABOUT POLITICAL DETERMINATION TO COMPLETE THE TOKYO ROUND. HE CAUTIONED ONLY THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES DID NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WANT TO BE LEFT ASIDE AND WOULD BE PRESSING TO SHARE "CONSTRUCTIVELY" IN THE WORK AND TO REASSURE THAT THEY RECEIVED THE SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT CALLED FOR IN THE TOKYO DECLARATION.

4. DG LONG DID NOT SPECIFICALLY CITE HIS EARLIER MEMORANDUM ON TIMETABLE (REFTEL) SINCE IT WAS EVIDENT FROM CONTENT OF THE DECLARATIONS BY STRAUSS, HAFERKAMP AND USHIBA THAT ALL OF THEM SUPPORTED A SOMEWHAT MORE AGGRESSIVE PACE THAN DG HAD INITIALLY PUT FORWARD. HE IS ANXIOUS, HOWEVER, THAT THERE BE SOME CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT RELATIVE PRIORITIES IN THE WORK PROGRAM FOR THE COMING MONTHS AND HAS ASKED AMBASSADOR MCDONALD TO MEET WITH HIM AND SAWAKI AND LUYTEN ON JANUARY 26 FOR THIS PURPOSE. (THE THREE DELEGATIONS ARE IN CONTACT AT STAFF LEVELS TO DEVELOP AS BROAD A CONSENSUS AS POSSIBLE.)

5. FOREGOING DRAFTED BY CULBERT AFTER AMBASSADOR STRAUSS' DEPARTURE. MCDONALD

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Message Attributes

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